

March 24, 1975

I think we've acted and let the Governor act, then we'll act on his act. I think that's the way to do it. I would find this a probably a potentially embarrassing situation in the future if we attempted this kind of conduct.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, for the record I have to get my comments in on a situation like this too. The Legislature and Executive are two branches of government which are separate. They are supposed to be co-equal. One is supposed to be a check and a balance on the other. The Legislature, as Senator Cavanaugh pointed out, has done what it felt was best. If he vetoed the bill I would uphold his veto, but I don't think that's the issue now, it's a matter of the dynamics of operation of this body. If the Governor stood on his head and screamed at the top of his lungs that he hated this bill, that still shouldn't change what the Legislature has already done. His way of handling what he does not like that the Legislature has done is by veto. That is the way he checks what the Legislature has done. I can understand Senator Clark's attempt to bring about peaceful coexistence. But throughout the history of this country there has never been any period of sustained peaceful coexistence between any legislative and executive branch of government, whether at the nation or the state level. I think it could be a terrible precedent to establish for the Governor to just make an ugly face, to speak in a loud angry voice, or to have a press conference and accuse some Senator of not having properly explained a bill. Senator Clark did his job if he persuaded enough members of the Legislature to vote for the bill. I think that might be a tribute to him if it is a difficult bill to understand and the Governor feels that 25 people over here couldn't possibly have the intellectual capacity to comprehend this bill. Had they understood it they would not have passed it. Well Senator Clark, I think, is being complimented by the Governor rather than demeaned. But I think the Legislature would demean itself if it brought this bill back only because the Governor has said he is going to veto it. Let him veto it and if the body agrees with his veto, no attempt to override will be made. I don't think the bill should be brought back.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm well aware, as the members of this body are, that Senator Clark has been working on this very knotty problem for six years. He no doubt knows as much about our communications problem as anybody that's around. It's my intention to support his leadership in all areas of this problem of communication.

PRESIDENT: Senator Clark are you ready to close debate?

SENATOR CLARK: You bet. I really appreciate the confidence of everyone in here to override the veto. I'll withdraw my motion.

PRESIDENT: Senator Clark asked for unanimous consent to withdraw his motion to return a bill from the Governor. Are there objections? Seeing none, it is so ordered.